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AF/ 2874
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of

Tarou KANEKO

Serial No.: 09/987,459

Group Art Unit: 2874

Filing Date: November 14, 2001

Examiner: Wong, Eric K.

For: **ARRAYED WAVEGUIDE GRADING WITH OPTICAL INPUT AND OUTPUT
CHARACTERISTICS SETTABLE TO DESIRED VALUES**

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 through §1.99 and pursuant to applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, applicant respectfully brings the following documents cited in the Japanese Office Action and listed on the attached form PTO-1449, to the attention of the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application. Copies of the listed documents are provided herewith for the convenience of the Examiner. Further, English Abstracts are attached to all of the references.

In compliance with the requirements of 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3), as a concise statement of relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 35 U.S.C. §1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, the undersigned attorney of record submits a translation of portions of an official action by a foreign examiner in which the references were cited. The relevance to the pending U.S. patent application is that the references were cited in a foreign patent application on the same subject matter. However, no independent analysis of the references, the accuracy of the statement of the foreign examiner or the claims of the foreign application under the laws of that country or the United States relative to the subject matter claimed in the present application has been made, the present understanding of the contents thereof by the undersigned being based on the translation of the foreign examiner's comments submitted herewith.

This citation does not constitute an admission that the references are relevant or material to the claims. They are only cited as constituting related art of which the applicant is aware.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was the first citation of that item by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, which occurred not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

Submitted herewith is the Information Disclosure Statement fee of \$180.00.

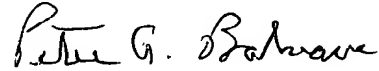
Docket No. NEC01P205-H1a
Serial No. 09/987,459

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It is respectfully requested that the listed references be considered by the Examiner and formally made of record in this application.

Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully submitted,



Peter A. Balnave
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(Use several sheets if necessary)

NEC01P205-HIa

09/987,459

Tarou KANEKO

November 14, 2001

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[illegible][illegible]

			Japanese Office Action dated November 4, 2003 with a partial English translation.

Japanese Office Action dated November 4, 2003 with a partial English translation.

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.